

From: Bill Nugent
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 5:34am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am writing with respect to the proposed Microsoft settlement and I am against it because it does not go far enough to curb the anti-trust abuses that Microsoft has been and is still engaged in.

The browser war has entered into a new chapter with Opera (www.opera.com). A few weeks ago I was able to use the Microsoft web site using Opera but when I tried a few days ago there were delays other problems. Reminds me of the Netscape browser war a few years back. I have read news reports that Microsoft is actively blocking Opera on other web sites as well such Hotmail.com.

I find it ironic that Microsoft does not feel the pressure to write programs that conform to published Internet standards - the Request for Comments (RFC's). Hotmail.com and Microsoft Outlook for years have not been compliant with the email address standards. Other companies scramble to fix these kinds of bugs but Microsoft does nothing - is this not monopolistic behavior?

Microsoft has now dropped support for Java in the latest release of the browser but Java is growth is phenomenal. Would not a truly competitive company continue support for Java? Other browsers such as Netscape, Opera and Konqueror all support Java. Why does Microsoft not feel competitive pressure?

Please abandon the US DOJ proposed settlement. Please join the alternative settlement proposed by the other nine states that actually will punish Microsoft and does more to create a level playing field.

Sincerely,
Bill Nugent

Please - abandon the current settlement proposal